

Message Text

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11

ACTION ARA-17

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INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 EB-11 COME-00 CG-00 IO-12 INT-08 RSR-01 AGR-20

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7423

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 2510

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, EFIS, EC

SUBJECT: ECUADOREAN VIEW OF THE REGULATION OF HIGHLY
MIGRATORY SPECIES OF FISH SUCH AS TUNA

REF: QUITO 2249

1. SUMMARY: ECUADOR FAVORS INTERNATIONAL REGULATION OF
FISHING FOR HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES SUCH AS TUNA FOR
CONSERVATION REASONS. SUCH REGULATION WOULD BE PERFORMED
BY AN INTERNATIONAL, UN RELATED BODY. ECUADOR WOULD BE
THE ORGANIZATION'S EXECUTIVE AGENT WITHIN 200 MILES OF
ITS COAST. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBOFF CALLED ON NAVY COMMANDER RODRIGO RIVADENEIRA,
UNDER SECRETARY OF THE MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES, TO
DISCUSS HIS COMMENTS OF APRIL 26 ON THE REGULATION OF
FISHING FOR HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES SUCH AS TUNA.
APRIL 26 COMMENTS WERE REPORTED IN QUITO 2249.

3. COMMANDER RIVADENEIRA SAID THAT ECUADOR FAVORED THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL BODY OR COMMITTEE TO
REGULATE TUNA FISHING ON A WORLD BASIS. HE STATED THAT
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SUCH AN ORGANIZATION SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ESTABLISHING TUNA FISHING QUOTAS BY ZONES OR REGIONS AND THAT THESE AREAS SHOULD NOT ONLY INCLUDE THE CLAIMED TERRITORIAL SEA OF ECUADOR AND OTHER COUNTRIES BUT ALSO ALL OTHER PLACES WHERE TUNA ARE FOUND SINCE THE BASIC PURPOSE OF SUCH REGULATION WOULD BE THAT OF CONSERVATION. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE COMMITTEE COULD DIVIDE THE RELEVANT AREAS INTO ZONES AND SET FISHING LIMITS FOR EACH AND ALSO ALLOCATE THE CATCH AMONG INTERESTED COUNTRIES. COMMANDER RIVADENEIRA SAID THAT ONE SUCH ZONE COULD BE THE ECUADOREAN- CLAIMED TERRITORIAL SEA AND THAT IN THAT AREA ECUADOR WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMITTEE' S DIRECTIVES ON CONSERVATION. THIS RESPONSIBILITY WOULD BE MET THROUGH THE CONTROL BY THE GOE OF TUNA FISHING IN THAT AREA BY THE ISSUANCE OF FISHING LICENSES. IN SHORT THE GOE WOULD RECONCILE INTERNATIONAL REGULATION OF TUNA FISHING WITHIN ITS CLAIMED TERRITORIAL SEA BY ACTING AS THE GROUP' S EXECUTIVE AGENT WITHIN 200 MILES OF ECUADOR.

4. COMMANDER RIVADENEIRA ADDED THAT SUCH AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION SHOULD NOT BE DOMINATED BY THE GREAT FISHING POWERS BUT RATHER OUGHT TO BE A UNITED NATIONS GROUP.

5. COMMENT: ECUADOREAN IMPLEMENTATION OF SUCH AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION' S CONSERVATION REGULATIONS WITHIN ITS CLAIMED TERRITORIAL SEA WOULD PROBABLY LEAD TO LIMITS ON THE CATCH OF INDIVIDUAL NATIONS IN THAT AREA AS ECUADOREAN FISHING CAPACITY INCREASED.
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